

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-07
LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 /043 W
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R 131122Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4726
INFO AMCONSUL BREMEN
AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF
AMCONSUL FRANKFURT
AMCONSUL HAMBURG
AMCONSUL MUNICH
AMCONSUL STUTTGART
USMISSION USBERLIN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
USLO RIYADH

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USEEC ALSO FOR EMBASSY, USOECD ALSO FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ELAB, GW
SUBJECT: SPANISH GASTARBEITER (GUEST WORKERS) IN THE

FRG

REF: BONN 00509

SUMMARY: SPANISH GASTARBEITER POPULATION IN THE FRG IS STABILIZING. THE MAJOR CONCERN IS EDUCATION FOR SPANISH CHILDREN (OVER HALF DO NOT COMPLETE BASIC SCHOOL). PROGRESS IN INTRODUCING SPECIAL PROGRAMS OF SPANISH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE FOR THE CHILDREN IS SLOW. END SUMMARY.

1. EMBASSY LABOFF MET WITH JESUS DE GORTAZAR ECHEVERRIA, THE SOCIAL ATTACHE OF THE SPANISH EMBASSY IN BONN FOR A DISCUSSION OF THE SITUATION OF SPANISH GASTARBEITER IN THE FRG. GORTAZAR STATED THAT THERE WERE 219,400 SPANISH CITIZENS RESIDENT IN THE FRG IN 1976 WITH 104,003 ACTUALLY WORKING AND PROVIDED THE FOLLOWING TABLES OF FIGURES:

MEN	128,100
WOMEN	91,300

BY LENGTH OF STAY IN THE FRG

UNDER 1 YEAR	4,700
1 TO 2 YEARS	6,400

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2 TO 3 YEARS	10,100
3 TO 4 YEARS	18,100
4 TO 6 YEARS	38,700
6 TO 8 YEARS	43,400
8 TO 10 YEARS	17,300
OVER 10 YEARS	76,400

UNDER THE AGE OF 15 47,200.

2. THE MAJOR PROBLEMS FACING THE SPANIARDS INVOLVE THE SECOND GENERATION OF WORKERS' CHILDREN (PARA 6 REFTEL). OVER SIXTY PERCENT OF THE SPANISH CHILDREN DO NOT GET THE BASIC SCHOOL CERTIFICATE (GRUNDSCHUL-ABSCHLUSS) AND THIS HINDERS THEIR CHANCE FOR JOBS OR APPRENTICE PROGRAMS (PARA 6 REFTEL). THERE ARE 360 SPANISH TEACHERS WHO ARE FUNDED BY THE SPANISH AND GERMAN GOVERNMENTS WHO HAVE BEEN SENT TO THE FRG TO TEACH SPANISH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE TO THESE CHILDREN. THE LACK OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT AND THE LAENDER (STATES) OF THE FRG (WHO ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR EDUCATION POLICY) RULES OUT ANY SORT OF COHERENT SYSTEM OF SPECIAL SCHOOLING FOR

THESE CHILDREN THROUGHOUT THE FRG. THIS LEADS TO
A SITUATION WHERE CHILDREN FALL BETWEEN THE STOOLS
- THEY RECEIVE NEITHER A GOOD SPANISH NOR A GOOD
GERMAN EDUCATION. THE END RESULT IS A POORLY EDUCATED
POTENTIAL WORKER WHO HAS NOT SUCCEEDED IN EITHER
SYSTEM. MORE COORDINATION BETWEEN THE SPANISH AND
LAENDER GOVERNMENTS WOULD NOT SOLVE ALL THE EXISTING
PROBLEMS BUT MIGHT HELP TO ALLEVIATE SOME OF THE MORE
DIFFICULT SOCIAL PROBLEMS THAT ARE DEVELOPING. A
LARGER NUMBER OF SPANISH TEACHERS WOULD ALSO HELP SINCE
CHILDREN IN RURAL AREAS DO NOT HAVE THESE TEACHERS

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AVAILABLE.

3. THE SPANISH POPULATION IN THE FRG HAS BEGUN TO STABILIZE. OVER HALF OF THE SPANISH POPULATION IN THE FRG HAS BEEN HERE FOR SIX YEARS OR MORE. THE RATE OF RETURNEES TO SPAIN WAS 14 PERCENT IN 1974-1975, WHILE THE RATE FOR 1975-1976 DROPPED TO 10.6 PERCENT. (THE RETURNING SPANIARD NEEDS TO HAVE HIS CHANGE OF RESIDENCE DOCUMENTATION IN ORDER TO CLEAR HIS HOUSEHOLD EFFECTS THROUGH CUSTOMS. AS A RESULT, THE RATE OF RETURN FIGURES ARE VERY RELIABLE.) THE STABILIZATION OF THE SPANISH POPULATION CAN BE ATTRIBUTED TO THEIR PERCEPTIONS OF RELATIVE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES, I.E., THE JOB MARKET IS BETTER IN GERMANY THAN IN SPAIN AND THOSE WORKERS ALREADY HERE WANT TO HOLD ON TO THEIR RESIDENCE AND WORKING PERMITS FOR AS LONG AS POSSIBLE. THERE HAVE BEEN PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH THE UNCERTAINTY OF RESIDENCE AND WORK PERMIT RENEWALS, BUT THIS IS BEGINNING TO DIMINISH AS THE AVERAGE PERIOD OF RESIDENCE INCREASES TO THE POINT WHERE AFTER FIVE YEARS OF RESIDENCE IN THE FRG THE RENEWAL IS ALMOST AUTOMATIC.

4. THE SPANISH CONSULATES HAVE BEEN REGISTERING 400-500 BINATIONAL MARRIAGES PER YEAR IN THE FRG, BUT THESE STATISTICS DO NOT REFLECT ALL THE BINATIONAL MARRIAGES THAT OCCUR. THE BINATIONAL MARRIAGES ARE ONE PART OF SOCIAL INTEGRATION. THE QUESTION OF EDUCATION REMAINS THE OTHER (PARA 3). IDEALLY, THE SPANISH WOULD LIKE TO SEE A SYSTEM THAT WOULD GIVE GASTARBEITER AND THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CHILDREN FROM BINATIONAL MARRIAGES AN OPTION IN BOTH SOCIETIES AND EDUCATIONAL SYSTEMS. IN PRACTICE, THIS

WOULD MEAN A BASIC GERMAN EDUCATION WITH AN ADDITIONAL SIX TO SEVEN HOURS OF SPANISH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE PER WEEK TAUGHT BY SPANISH TEACHERS. THIS CAN PROBABLY BE ACHIEVED IN THE MAJOR INDUSTRIAL AREAS IF THE AUTHORITIES ARE WILLING TO PAY FOR THE PROGRAMS. THE ISOLATED CHILDREN IN THE LESS DENSELY POPULATED AREAS OF GERMANY ARE STILL LIKELY TO BE LEFT BEHIND IN THE YEARS AHEAD. THE LIMITED RESOURCES AVAILABLE FOR SPANISH CHILDREN HAVE TO BE USED FOR THE MAXIMUM BENEFIT WHICH MEANS THAT THE PRESENT SPANISH TEACHERS AND ANY ADDITIONAL ONES HIRED IN THE FUTURE WILL BE SENT TO AREAS WITH HIGH CONCENTRATIONS OF SPANISH CHILDREN, HESSE, NORTH RHINE-WESTPHALIA, BADEN-WUERTTEMBERG, AND BREMEN-LOWER SAXONY.
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